Business and Trade Committee



 $House of Commons, London SW1A 0AA \\ 020 7219 8586 - \underline{Commonsbtc@parliament.uk} - \underline{www.parliament.uk/CommonsBTC} - \underline{@CommonsBTC}$

Andrew Selley
Chief Executive Officer
Bidcorp (UK) Limited
814 Leigh Road
Slough
England
SL1 4BD
[by e-mail]

27 January 2025

Dear Andrew Selley

It has been brought to my attention that Bidfood has terminated its collective bargaining unit (CBU) agreements, reportedly ending a thirty-year relationship of voluntary agreement between Bidfood, Unite and the GMB.

I am also aware of a statement - reported in the media to have been issued by Bidfood - that <u>describes</u> some of the comments prompted by this news - to be "inflammatory and untrue". I write therefore to ask if you might set the record straight in correspondence to my Committee as a matter of public record.

Please can you set out to me:

- 1) Whether Bidfood has ended its voluntary agreement of recognition to have a Collective Bargaining Unit (CBU) and, if so, what has motivated such a decision.
- 2) Where your decision has been motivated by what has been <u>described</u> in comments attributed to Bidfood as unions "not being reflective of the interests of the majority of our employees", I would further invite you to provide clarity on the reasons which have been raised to you by workers to this effect alongside any relevant figures relating to engagement from workers evidencing their dissatisfaction with union recognition and representation.
- 3) In relation to concern that such a decision may impact the terms and conditions of employment of your workers, please can you confirm to me that (a) you have no current or future plans to dismiss workers, or undertake any (b) redundancies in view of upcoming events.
- 4) Lastly, please can you set out to me how Bidfood, as a supplier of services to the armed forces, public bodies, schools and hospitals, plans to ensure that it can avoid

and manage operational disruption arising out of any change to its industrial relations approach and wider relations with its workforce, including the potential of industrial action in relation to any recognition dispute.

Please be aware that the Committee reserves the right to call upon Bidfood and its wider group to provide further evidence, including oral evidence, should that be required.

A response to this correspondence is requested by 14 February 2025.

Yours sincerely

Chair of the Business and Trade Committee

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